



Norm Archibald  
Mayor

May 1, 2009

The Honorable Randy Neugebauer  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1424 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Abilene Regional Transit Center

Dear Congressman Neugebauer:

I am writing to request your support for funding under the Highway Reauthorization Bill to assist the City of Abilene in building a new Regional Transit Center to consolidate the operations of the Abilene's CityLink, Greyhound, and two rural service providers, City and Rural Rides (CARR) and Double Mountain Coach.

The City of Abilene operates a bus system, CityLink, which provides the community with 11 fixed bus routes, ADA paratransit service, and daytime and evening demand-response service. Greyhound provides important intercity service to points within Texas and throughout the United States. The two rural bus companies provide service to Abilene for people in Taylor County and other counties in the surrounding region.

These four transit services currently operate from separate facilities and are not well-connected. The City plans to construct a Regional Transit Center in a downtown/midtown location that will consolidate these transit operations. The Center will have a terminal area for passengers, administrative offices for the transit operations, maintenance facilities, parking, retail space, and a bus storage area. The project has several key benefits:


- Passengers will be able to transfer more easily between rural, citywide, and intercity bus services. This interconnectedness will save passengers time, make the bus services more accessible, and promote the use of public transit.
- The consolidation of maintenance facilities, bus storage areas, and passenger parking will provide efficiencies and will reduce costs.
- The consolidated facility will spur economic development in the downtown/midtown area.

As part of the review process, the City will hold public meetings so that people will have an opportunity to learn about the project and comment on it.

**The total estimated cost for the Regional Transit Center is \$7,772,000. The City of Abilene supports this important project and will provide funding that, combined with funding under the Highway Bill, will equal at least 80 percent of the estimated cost.**

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Norm Archibald  
Mayor